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Yellowstone  
County  
metropolitan  
statistical area  
informational wage  
rates by  
occupation for

# Yellowstone County

## Metropolitan Statistical Area

### Informational Wage Rates

#### by Occupation

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#### for 1997

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Office of Research and Analysis  
Job Service Division  
Montana Department of Labor and Industry

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# *Yellowstone County Metropolitan Statistical Area Informational Wage Rates by Occupation for 1997*



State of Montana

Marc Racicot, Governor

Department of Labor & Industry

Pat Haffey, Commissioner

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As always, the Office of Research and Analysis welcomes questions, comments and suggestions from the public. In addition, we'll do our best to provide information in accessible format, on request, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.



A sincere thank you is extended to: The many public and private organizations across Montana which took part in this survey; the Office of Research and Analysis staff who helped with this project: Tom Cawley, Casey Greenwood, Tina Hash, Roy Hinman, Julie Huntington, Kate Kahle, Bob Schleicher and Cathy Shenkle.

This publication contains average hourly and annual wage rates for 261 occupations sorted alphabetically for the Yellowstone County Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). A Metropolitan Statistical Area, as determined by the Office of Management and Budget, must have a central city with a population of 50,000 or more. The Yellowstone County MSA includes Billings and Yellowstone County and is located in south central Montana. This is the first year wage rates are available for MSAs and are provided for both Yellowstone and Cascade Counties. We also have a Statewide wage publication available. *No other county level wage data is available for Montana.* For copies of any of these publications, contact our office at the telephone numbers listed in this publication.

The average hourly wage is the mean wage rate. See the back cover page for a detailed explanation. The wages contained in this publication cannot be used for Montana Prevailing Wage or Alien Labor Certification purposes. For more information about the survey used to produce these wage rates, please refer to the back page.

**A**

Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage	Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Accountants and Auditors	\$18.02	\$37,490	Chemists, Except Biochemists	\$18.16	\$37,770
Agricultural, Forestry, Fishing, and Related Workers, First-Line Supervisors and Managers/Supervisors	\$10.42	\$21,670	Child Care Workers	\$5.42	\$11,270
Aircraft Mechanics	\$16.34	\$33,980	Civil Engineering Technicians and Technologists	\$13.77	\$28,650
Amusement and Recreation Attendants	\$5.99	\$12,450	Cleaning and Building Service Workers, All Other	\$8.32	\$17,300
Animal Caretakers, Except Farm	\$6.10	\$12,680	Clergy	\$14.44	\$30,040
Architects, Except Landscape and Marine	\$18.85	\$39,200	Clerical and Administrative Support Workers, Clerical and Administrative Support Workers, First-Line Supervisors and Managers/Supervisors	\$9.45	\$19,660
Artists and Related Workers	\$12.93	\$26,890	All Other		
Assemblers and Fabricators, Except Machine, Electrical, Electronic, and Precision	\$7.47	\$15,540	Clerks, Adjustment	\$13.96	\$29,030
Automotive Body and Related Repairers	\$12.07	\$25,110	Clerks, Billing, Cost, and Rate	\$7.65	\$15,910
Automotive Mechanics	\$13.68	\$28,460	Clerks, Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing	\$9.28	\$19,300

**B**

Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage	Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Baggage Porters and Bellhops	\$7.49	\$15,570	Clerks, Counter and Rental	\$6.47	\$13,450
Bakers, Bread and Pastry	\$7.49	\$15,580	Clerks, File	\$7.17	\$14,910
Bartenders	\$6.13	\$12,760	Clerks, General Office	\$8.39	\$17,460
Bicycle Repairers	\$8.00	\$16,630	Clerks, Hotel Desk	\$6.04	\$12,570
Bill and Account Collectors	\$11.59	\$24,100	Clerks, Insurance Policy Processing	\$10.37	\$21,570
Bindery Machine Operators and Tenders	\$9.25	\$19,250	Clerks, Interviewing, Except Personnel and Social Welfare	\$8.09	\$16,830
Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists	\$13.47	\$28,020	Clerks, Law	\$12.92	\$26,860
Bus Drivers, School	\$9.89	\$20,570	Clerks, Loan and Credit	\$8.64	\$17,970

**C**

Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage	Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	\$12.93	\$26,900	Clerks, Procurement	\$10.01	\$20,810
Carpenters	\$12.89	\$26,800	Clerks, Production, Planning, and Expediting	\$14.53	\$30,220
Cashiers	\$6.06	\$12,610	Clerks, Receptionists and Information	\$7.89	\$16,420
Central Office and PBX Installers and Repairers	\$17.97	\$37,380	Clerks, Shipping, Receiving, and Traffic	\$10.78	\$22,410
			Clerks, Stock, Sales Floor	\$6.78	\$14,110

**C (continued)**

Average annual wage is based on a 2,080-hour work year.

\*Workers in these occupations are paid based on an annual amount, but generally work other than the usual 2,080 hours per year.

# C (continued)

Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Clerks, Stock - Stockroom, Warehouse or Storage Yard	\$8.68	\$18,050
Computer Operators, Except Peripheral Equipment	\$10.55	\$21,950
Computer Programmers	\$19.51	\$40,590
Computer Support Specialists	\$13.57	\$28,220
Concrete and Terrazzo Finishers	\$11.04	\$22,960
Construction and Building Inspectors	\$16.20	\$33,700
Construction Trades and Extractive Workers, First-Line Supervisors and Managers/Supervisors	\$16.34	\$33,990
Cooks, Fast Food	\$5.28	\$10,990
Cooks, Institution or Cafeteria	\$7.36	\$15,310
Cooks, Restaurant	\$7.61	\$15,830
Cooks, Short Order	\$7.07	\$14,700
Cost Estimators	\$14.37	\$29,900
Counter Attendants - Lunchroom, Coffee Shop, or Cafeteria	\$5.69	\$11,840
Credit Checkers	\$7.75	\$16,120
Customer Service Representatives, Utilities	\$9.31	\$19,370

# D

Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Database Administrators	\$20.12	\$41,860
Data Entry Keyers, Except Composing	\$8.15	\$16,940
Data Processing Equipment Repairers	\$12.20	\$25,380
Dental Assistants	\$9.63	\$20,040
Dental Hygienists	\$21.00	\$43,680
Dentists	*	\$113,530
Designers, Except Interior Designers	\$8.61	\$17,910
Dietitians and Nutritionists	\$17.17	\$35,700
Dispatchers, Except Police, Fire, and Ambulance	\$13.55	\$28,190
Drafters	\$14.75	\$30,670
Driver/Sales Workers	\$8.76	\$18,230
Duplicating Machine Operators	\$7.83	\$16,280

Average annual wage is based on a 2,080-hour work year.

\*Workers in these occupations are paid based on an annual amount, but generally work other than the usual 2,080 hours per year.

# E

Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Education Administrators	\$21.20	\$44,090
Electric Home Appliance and Power Tool Repairers	\$8.93	\$18,580
Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technicians and Technologists	\$15.35	\$31,930
Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	\$19.02	\$39,570
Electricians	\$16.62	\$34,570
Electronic Home Entertainment Equipment Repairers	\$9.60	\$19,970
Electronic Pagination System Operators	\$11.70	\$24,330
Electronics Repairers, Commercial and Industrial Equipment	\$13.66	\$28,410
Employment Interviewers, Private or Public Employment Service	\$12.11	\$25,180
Engineering and Related Technicians and Technologists, All Other	\$15.98	\$33,240
Engineers, Aircraft Pilots and Flight Engineers, All Other	*	\$34,990
Engineers, Civil, Including Traffic	\$25.12	\$52,250
Engineers, Electrical and Electronic	\$21.93	\$45,620
Engineers, Mechanical	\$18.27	\$38,000
Engineers, Operating	\$14.59	\$30,350
Engineers, Petroleum	\$26.03	\$54,140
Excavating and Loading Machine Operators	\$14.93	\$31,040
Extruding, Forming, Pressing, and Compacting Machine Operators and Tenders	\$8.82	\$18,350

# F

Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Farm Equipment Mechanics	\$11.05	\$22,990
Fence Erectors	\$9.21	\$19,150
Financial Specialists, All Other	\$19.28	\$40,100
Food Preparation and Service Workers, Combined	\$5.66	\$11,760
Food Preparation Workers	\$6.02	\$12,520
Food Service Workers, All Other	\$6.39	\$13,280

## F (continued)

	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Occupations		
Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand, All Other	\$9.63	\$20,030
Furniture Finishers	\$8.14	\$16,940

## G

	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Occupations		
Geologists, Geophysicists, and Oceanographers	\$25.47	\$52,970
Glaziers	\$10.12	\$21,050
Guards and Watch Guards	\$6.65	\$13,830

## H

	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Occupations		
Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists	\$8.85	\$18,420
Hand Packers and Packagers	\$7.81	\$16,250
Hand Workers, All Other	\$6.97	\$14,500
Health Professionals, Paraprofessionals, and Technicians, All Other	\$13.45	\$27,970
Health Service Workers, All Other	\$8.41	\$17,490
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	\$13.46	\$27,990
Helpers, Carpenters and Related Workers	\$7.93	\$16,490
Helpers, Dining Room and Cafeteria Attendants and Bartenders	\$5.68	\$11,820
Helpers, Laborers and Material Movers, Hand, All Other	\$9.29	\$19,330
Helpers, Laborers and Material Movers, Hand - First-Line Supervisors and Managers/Supervisors	\$13.19	\$27,440
Helpers, Mechanics and Repairers	\$7.68	\$15,980
Helpers, Roofers	\$7.70	\$16,010
Home Health Aides	\$6.37	\$13,250
Hosts and Hostesses, Restaurant, Lounge, or Coffee Shop	\$6.02	\$12,520

Average annual wage is based on a 2,080-hour work year.

\*Workers in these occupations are paid based on an annual amount, but generally work other than the usual 2,080 hours per year.

## H (continued)

Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Housekeeping Supervisors	\$8.62	\$17,930
Human Services Workers	\$7.73	\$16,070

## I

Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	\$12.68	\$26,370
Installers and Repairers, Manufactured Buildings, Mobile Homes, and Travel Trailers	\$9.14	\$19,010
Instructors and Coaches, Sports and Physical Training	\$6.35	\$13,210
Insulation Workers	\$14.59	\$30,350
Insurance Adjusters, Examiners, and Investigators	\$16.07	\$33,420
Insurance Underwriters	\$16.98	\$35,320
Interior Designers	\$10.82	\$22,500

## J

Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	\$6.79	\$14,130

## L

Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Laborers, Landscaping and Groundskeeping	\$7.12	\$14,820
Laundry and Dry-cleaning Machine Operators and Tenders, Except Pressing	\$6.13	\$12,760
Lawyers	\$29.93	\$62,260
Librarians, Professional	\$13.04	\$27,130
Library, Technical Assistants	\$7.90	\$16,430
Licensed Practical Nurses	\$11.15	\$23,180
Loan Officers and Counselors	\$15.95	\$33,180

**M**

Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Machine Operators and Tenders, All Other	\$9.29	\$19,330
Machinery Maintenance Mechanics	\$10.58	\$22,020
Machinists	\$12.45	\$25,890
Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	\$6.32	\$13,140
Maintenance Repairers, General Utility	\$9.73	\$20,250
Management Analysts	\$18.24	\$37,940
Management Support Workers, All Other	\$18.41	\$38,300
Managers, Administrative Services	\$23.14	\$48,120
Managers and Administrators, All Other	\$20.65	\$42,950
Managers, Communications, Transportation, and Utilities Operations	\$20.18	\$41,970
Managers, Construction	\$19.57	\$40,700
Managers, Engineering, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences	\$29.24	\$60,810
Managers, Financial	\$24.22	\$50,380
Managers, Food Service and Lodging	\$11.75	\$24,430
Managers, General and Top Executives	\$26.43	\$54,970
Managers, Industrial Production	\$26.11	\$54,300
Managers, Marketing, Advertising, and Public Relations	\$20.75	\$43,160
Managers, Medicine and Health Services	\$24.73	\$51,440
Managers, Personnel, Training, and Labor Relations	\$19.95	\$41,490
Managers, Purchasing	\$19.48	\$40,520
Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers, All Other	\$9.78	\$20,330
Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers, First-Line Supervisors and Managers/Supervisors	\$17.08	\$35,530
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians	\$11.80	\$24,550
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists	\$17.96	\$37,360
Medical Assistants	\$9.57	\$19,900
Medical Records Technicians	\$7.80	\$16,230
Messengers	\$5.60	\$11,650
Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics, Except Engines	\$14.19	\$29,520
Motorcycle Repairers	\$10.88	\$22,620

**N**

Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	\$7.47	\$15,530
O		
Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Occupational Therapists	\$21.96	\$45,680
Office Machine and Cash Register Servicers	\$8.77	\$18,250
Office Machine Operators, All Other	\$8.83	\$18,370
Offset Lithographic Press Setters and Set-Up Operators	\$10.60	\$22,050
Opticians, Dispensing and Measuring	\$9.41	\$19,570
Order Fillers, Wholesale and Retail Sales	\$9.54	\$19,840
P		
Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	\$9.64	\$20,050
Painters and Paperhangers, Construction and Maintenance	\$16.70	\$34,740
Painting, Coating, and Decorating Workers, Hand	\$11.34	\$23,590
Paralegal Personnel	\$12.67	\$26,360
Personnel, Training, and Labor Relations Specialists	\$13.34	\$27,740
Pharmacists	\$26.45	\$55,010
Pharmacy Technicians and Aides	\$7.42	\$15,440
Photographic Processing Machine Operators and Tenders	\$8.09	\$16,830
Physical and Corrective Therapy Assistants and Aides	\$9.53	\$19,830
Physical Therapists	\$27.77	\$57,770
Physicians and Surgeons	\$53.13	\$110,520

Average annual wage is based on a 2,080-hour work year.

\*Workers in these occupations are paid based on an annual amount, but generally work other than the usual 2,080 hours per year.

# P (continued)

Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Plumbers, Pipe fitters, and Steamfitters	\$18.97	\$39,460
Precision Dental Laboratory Technicians	\$12.70	\$26,420
Precision Inspectors, Testers, and Graders	\$10.79	\$22,450
Pressing Machine Operators and Tenders, Textile, Garment, and Related Materials	\$7.99	\$16,610
Printing Press Machine Operators and Tenders	\$11.41	\$23,730
Producers, Directors, Actors, and Other Entertainers	*	\$28,640
Production and Operating Workers, First-Line Supervisors and Managers/Supervisors	\$14.66	\$30,500
Production, Construction, Maintenance and Related Workers - Supervisors and Managers/Supervisors - First-Line, All Other	\$18.25	\$37,960
Production Inspectors, Testers, Graders, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	\$8.10	\$16,850
Public Relations Specialists and Publicity Writers	\$15.41	\$32,050
Purchasing Agents and Buyers, Farm Products	\$15.71	\$32,680
Purchasing Agents, Except Wholesale, Retail, and Farm Products	\$19.05	\$39,620

# S

Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Sales Agents and Placers, Insurance	\$18.99	\$39,490
Sales Agents, Advertising	\$13.39	\$27,850
Sales Agents, Real Estate	\$20.70	\$43,050
Sales Agents, Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services	\$32.35	\$67,300
Sales Agents, Selected Business Services	\$11.45	\$23,820
Sales and Related Workers, All Other	\$8.55	\$17,780
Sales and Related Workers, First-Line Supervisors and Managers/Supervisors	\$15.75	\$32,770
Sales Representatives, Except Retail and Scientific and Related Products and Services	\$16.01	\$33,310
Sales Representatives, Scientific and Related Products and Services	\$23.81	\$49,520
Salespersons, Parts	\$11.80	\$24,540
Salespersons, Retail	\$9.12	\$18,970
Secretaries, Except Legal and Medical	\$8.58	\$17,850
Secretaries, Legal	\$11.97	\$24,900
Secretaries, Medical	\$11.06	\$23,010
Service Station Attendants	\$7.48	\$15,560
Service Workers, All Other	\$6.63	\$13,790
Service Workers, Supervisors and Managers/Supervisors, All Other	\$9.53	\$19,830
Sheet Metal Duct Installers	\$14.17	\$29,470
Sheet Metal Workers	\$16.10	\$33,490
Social Workers, Except Medical and Psychiatric	\$12.42	\$25,830

# R

Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Radiologic Technologists	\$14.34	\$29,830
Recreation Workers	\$7.02	\$14,600
Refuse and Recyclable Material Collectors	\$10.63	\$22,110
Registered Nurses	\$16.62	\$34,560
Reservation and Transportation Ticket Agents	\$11.00	\$22,890
Residential Counselors	\$8.14	\$16,920
Roofers	\$9.80	\$20,380

Average annual wage is based on a 2,080-hour work year.

\*Workers in these occupations are paid based on an annual amount, but generally work other than the usual 2,080 hours per year.

## T

Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage	Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Tax Preparers	\$10.43	\$21,690	Vehicle Washers and Equipment Cleaners	\$6.36	\$13,230
Taxi Drivers and Chauffeurs	\$6.96	\$14,470	Veterinarians and Veterinary Inspectors	\$19.97	\$41,540
Teacher Aides and Educational Assistants, Clerical	\$7.03	\$14,630	Veterinary Assistants	\$5.43	\$11,300
Teacher Aides, Paraprofessional	\$6.85	\$14,250	Veterinary Technicians and Technologists	\$7.39	\$15,370
Teachers and Instructors, Vocational Education and Training	\$10.64	\$22,130	Vocational and Educational Counselors	\$15.14	\$31,490
Teachers, Elementary School	*	\$27,770			
Teachers, Kindergarten	*	\$25,540			
Teachers, Preschool	\$7.89	\$16,410	Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Teachers, Secondary School	*	\$30,270	Waiters and Waitresses	\$5.42	\$11,260
Teachers, Special Education	*	\$26,330	Welders and Cutters	\$11.24	\$23,390
Telemarketers, Door-To-Door Sales Workers, News and Street Vendors, and Other Related Workers	\$7.32	\$15,220	Wellhead Pumpers	\$17.67	\$36,760
Telephone and Cable Television Line Installers and Repairers	\$17.16	\$35,690	Wholesale and Retail Buyers, Except Farm Products	\$14.59	\$30,350
Tellers	\$7.37	\$15,320	Writers and Editors	\$15.14	\$31,480
Therapists, All Other	\$24.21	\$50,350			
Tire Repairers and Changers	\$8.46	\$17,600			
Transportation and Material-Moving Machine and Vehicle Operators, First-Line Supervisors and Managers/Supervisors	\$16.54	\$34,410			
Travel Agents	\$9.51	\$19,780			
Truck Drivers, Heavy or Tractor-Trailer	\$12.63	\$26,270			
Truck Drivers, Light, Including Delivery and Route Workers	\$9.23	\$19,190			
Typists, Including Word Processing	\$8.68	\$18,050			

## V

Occupations	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage
Waiters and Waitresses	\$5.42	\$11,260
Welders and Cutters	\$11.24	\$23,390
Wellhead Pumpers	\$17.67	\$36,760
Wholesale and Retail Buyers, Except Farm Products	\$14.59	\$30,350
Writers and Editors	\$15.14	\$31,480

Average annual wage is based on a 2,080-hour work year.

\*Workers in these occupations are paid based on an annual amount, but generally work other than the usual 2,080 hours per year.

The Montana State Job Service Division maintains 23 local Job Service Centers in principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, obtaining additional labor market information and for receiving other services in connection with your employment needs.

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715 Front St.  
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## **1997 Montana Occupational Wage Survey Methodology**

Data in this publication come from the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) wage survey. The OES survey is an annual mail survey measuring occupational employment and occupational wage rates for wage and salary workers in nonfarm establishments. The wage rates in the publication were produced by the Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Employment Statistics program in cooperation with the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Office of Research and Analysis, which collects and analyzes the data. The survey excludes the self-employed, owners/partners of unincorporated firms and unpaid family workers. Included in this publication are the publishable wage rates for Montana for the 1996 (wages updated to 1997) and 1997 survey rounds, combined.

### **Average or *Mean* Hourly and Annual Wages**

The average hourly and annual wage rates referred to in this publication are the mean wages. Most employees are paid at an hourly rate by their employers and may work less than or more than 40 hours per week. The annual wage estimates in this publication are calculated by multiplying the mean wage by a year-round, full-time hours figure of 2,080 hours per year (52 weeks times 40 hours). Thus, the annual wage estimates may not represent the actual annual pay received by the employee.

There are a small number of occupations where only an annual wage figure is provided. The workers in these occupations are paid based on an annual amount, but generally work less than the usual 2,080 hours per year. Since the survey does not collect the actual hours worked, the hourly rate cannot be calculated with a reasonable degree of confidence from the annual wages. For this reason, only the annual salary is reported for the occupations. These occupations are marked by an asterisk in the hourly wage column. Occupations that typically have a work year of less than 2,080 hours include musical and entertainment occupations, flight attendants and pilots, and teachers.

This wage information can also be found on the Internet at: <http://rad.dli.state.mt.us/> and comparable national and other states' data can be found on the Internet at [http://stats.bls.gov/oes/oes\\_data.htm](http://stats.bls.gov/oes/oes_data.htm). For more information, please contact our office at the phone numbers or address listed in this publication.

Montana Department of Labor & Industry  
Job Service Division  
Office of Research & Analysis  
P. O. Box 1728  
Helena, MT 59624-1728

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Official Business  
Penalty for Private Use  
\$300



# Montana State Library

*Records Digitization Project*

## COVER SHEET



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